Bharat Nirman Scheme

3301. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI VIJAY J.DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of adoption of public-private partnership model for successfully completing "Bharat Nirman" aiming at development of rural infrastructure with an outlay of around Rs. 1.7 lac crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the Rural Infrastructure Committee is reviewing the "Bharat Nirman Scheme" for identifying problem areas;

(d) the problems identified;

(e) if so, whether the Envisaged Development Programme of irrigation facilities in 1.3 crores hectare, power supply to 1.25 lakh habitation and road connectivity to all villages etc. would be implemented; and

(f) the action plan chalked out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (f) The Finance Minister in his Budget speech for 2005-06 on 28.02.2005 announced Bharat Nirman as a business plan for building rural infrastructure over a period of four years (2005-2009). Bharat Nirman comprises six components namely, irrigation, roads, water supply, housing, rural electrification and rural telecom connectivity. The modified/revised targets envisaged under each component are:

(i) to create 1 crore hectares additional irrigation capacity.

(ii) to cover 66,802 habitations with population over 1000 (500 in hilly and tribal areas) with all weather road.

(iii) to cover 55,067 uncovered habitations with drinking water. In addition, all habitations which have slipped back from full coverage to partial coverage due to failure of source and habitations which have water quality problems to be addressed.

(iv) to construct 60 lakh houses for rural poor.

(v) to provide electricity to remaining 1,25,000 villages and 23 million households.

(vi) to connect 66,822 villages with telephone.

The focus in Bharat Nirman is to impart a sense of urgency in the goals to make the programme time-bound, transparent and accountable. The Chief Ministers of various States have been addressed in this regard.

The Committee on Rural Infrastructure set up under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister is monitoring the implementation of Bharat Nirman. Since Bharat Nirman is in the first year of implementation, no statement can be made in regard to the problems identified in its implementation. However, if bottlenecks arise, these would be brought to the notice of the Committee for resolution.

The preliminary estimate of expenditure for Bharat Nirman has been assessed as Rs. 1,76,000 crores. The fund requirements will be mainly met through an appropriate mix of budgetary support by Centre and States, external aid, market borrowings and beneficiary contribution in some cases. The Terms of Reference to the Committee on Rural Infrastructure include developing innovative financing arrangements for complementing public investment in these areas.

BPL population in Madhya Pradesh

3302. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUK KARASAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is the number of people living Below Poverty Line in Madhya Pradesh and the steps taken and amount provided under the poverty alleviation scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The last available data from such survey is from NSS 55th Round, which was conducted in 1999-2000. The percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line using the data from that survey on household consumption expenditure, in the State of Madhya Pradesh is given below:

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line during 1999-2000

	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	No. of	% of	No. of	% of	No. of	% of
States/U.Ts	Persons (Lakhs)	Persons	Persons (Lakhs)	Persons	Persons (Lakhs)	Persons
Madhya Pradesh	217.32	37.06	81.22	38.44	298.54	37.43